

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proclaiming Casimir Pulaski to be an honorary citizen of
the United States posthumously.

Whereas Casimir Pulaski was a Polish military officer who
fought on the side of the American colonists against the
British in the American Revolutionary War;

Whereas Benjamin Franklin recommended that General
George Washington accept Casimir Pulaski as a volun-
teer in the American Cavalry and said that Pulaski was
“renowned throughout Europe for the courage and brav-
ery he displayed in defense of his country’s freedom”;

Whereas after arriving in America, Casimir Pulaski wrote to
General Washington, “I came here, where freedom is
being defended, to serve it, and to live or die for it.”;

Whereas the first military engagement of Casimir Pulaski
with the British was on September 11, 1777, at the Bat-
tle of Brandywine, and his courageous charge in this en-
gagement averted a disastrous defeat of the American
Cavalry and saved the life of George Washington;

Whereas on September 15, 1777, George Washington ele-
vated Casimir Pulaski to the rank of Brigadier General
of the American Cavalry;

Whereas Casimir Pulaski formed the Pulaski Cavalry Legion,
and in February 1779, this legion ejected the British oc-
cupiers from Charleston, South Carolina;

Whereas in October 1779, Casimir Pulaski mounted an as-
sault against British forces in Savannah, Georgia;

Whereas on the morning of October 9, 1779, Casimir Pulaski
was mortally wounded and was taken aboard the Amer-
ican ship USS Wasp, where he died at sea on October
11, 1779;

Whereas before the end of 1779, the Continental Congress
resolved that a monument should be erected in honor of
Casimir Pulaski;

Whereas in 1825, General Lafayette laid the cornerstone for
the Casimir Pulaski monument in Savannah, Georgia;
and

Whereas in 1929, Congress passed a resolution recognizing
October 11 of each year as Pulaski Day in the United
States: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That Casimir Pulaski is proclaimed to be an honorary cit-
- 4 izen of the United States posthumously.

Passed the Senate March 2, 2009.

Attest:

Secretary.

11TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 12

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